

2020 Seattle City Council Budget Action

Agenda

| Tab | Action | Option | Version |
|------|--------|--------|---------|
| SDCI | 7 | A | 1 |

Budget Action Title: Add \$534,522 (ongoing) GF to SDCI for eviction legal defense

Ongoing: Yes Has Budget Proviso: No

Has CIP Amendment: No

Primary Sponsor: Kshama Sawant

Council Members:

Staff Analyst: Ketil Freeman

Council Bill or Resolution:

| Date | | Total | LH | BH | KS | AP | DJ | MO | SB | TM | LG |
|------|---------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | Yes | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| | No | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Abstain | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Absent | 0 | | | | | | | | | |

Summary of Dollar Effect

See the following pages for detailed technical information

| | 2020 Increase (Decrease) | 2021 Increase (Decrease) |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| General Fund | | |
| General Fund Revenues | \$0 | |
| General Fund Expenditures | \$534,522 | |
| Net Balance Effect | \$(534,522) | |
| | | |
| Total Budget Balance Effect | \$(534,522) | |

Budget Action Description:

This Budget Action adds \$534,522 GF to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) Compliance BCL to contract with the Housing Justice Project of the King County Bar Association or similar organization to provide legal representation for Seattle renters facing eviction. The proposed appropriation would fund six tenant rights attorneys to provide eviction defense legal support. The Housing Justice Project estimates that six attorneys would be sufficient to assist every Seattle renter facing residential eviction in 2020.

The 2020 Endorsed and Proposed Budgets include an ongoing appropriation of \$615,000 for tenant services grants and contracts. The 2019 Adopted Budget also included \$96,000 for eviction defense legal services. That appropriation was one-time and is not included in the Mayor's proposed budget. SDCI will recomplete tenant service grants and contracts in 2020.

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Budget Action Transactions

| # | Transaction Description | Position Title | Number of Positions | FTE | Dept | BSL | Fund | Year | Revenue Amount | Expenditure Amount |
|---|--|----------------|---------------------|-----|--------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Add appropriation for eviction legal defense | | 0 | 0 | SDCI - CI000 | SDCI - BO-CI-U2400 - Compliance | 00100 - General Fund | 2020 | \$0 | \$534,522 |